



Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

November 23, 2005

**FOR INFORMATION: Justina Ferber 240-777-7938 or
Linda McMillan 240-777-7933**

COUNCIL SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS ADVISORY GROUP

Deadline 5:00 P.M. January 11, 2006

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The County Council is seeking applicants for positions on its fiscal year 2007 Grants Advisory Group. To assist the Council in its review of grant proposals from the non-profit community, the Council will appoint a community panel called the Grants Advisory Group to review grant applications. The County Council believes that a strong partnership with non-profit organizations is critical in meeting the county's health and human services and community needs. These partnerships come through competitive contracts and grants and from proposals made directly from the non-profit community to the County Council. The Council has established an FY07 grants process that will require non-profit organizations seeking funds for these purposes to submit a Council grant application form and other acceptable forms by February 15, 2006.

The Grants Advisory Group will be asked to provide the Council with comments on each of the grant proposals. Grant applicants will be asked to respond to any questions from the Advisory Group and allow site visits if requested. The Advisory Group will not be asked to prioritize the proposals or specifically make a recommendation for or against any specific proposal. The Advisory Group will provide the County Council with a report by April 24, 2006, that will include comments on all grant proposals.

The Advisory Group will consist of five to ten members appointed by the County Council and will represent a balance of different points of view and diversity in the County. Volunteers for the Grants Advisory Group can come from panels reviewing Community Development Block Grants or Community Service Grants as well as from other advisory boards or community groups. Applicants for the Advisory group cannot be a member on a Board of a group applying for grant funding. The County Council will designate the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Advisory Group. The Advisory Group will be appointed by February 7, 2006, and will be asked to report to the Council by April 24, 2006.

Interested citizens should submit their letter of interest with a resume to Council President, Montgomery County Council Office, Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Letters of interest **must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 11, 2006.** Questions regarding the Grants Advisory Group may be directed to Council staff members Linda McMillan, at 240/777-7933 or Justina Ferber at 240/777-7938.

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